

**In the Claims:**

Please rewrite Claim 8 in independent form. Amend Claims 12 and 13 to depend from Claim 8. The changes in these Claims are shown with ~~strikethrough~~ for deleted matter and underlines for added matter. A complete listing of the claims, with proper claim identifiers, is set forth below.

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Previously Presented) A stabilizer bar comprising:

a fiber-reinforced composite rod comprising a plurality of fibers embedded in a resin binder, said rod comprising first and second rod ends;

first and second metallic arms secured to the respective rod ends;

wherein the composite rod comprises a longitudinal axis, wherein the fibers comprise first, second and third sets of fibers, wherein the fibers of the first set are oriented at  $0^\circ \pm 15^\circ$  with respect to the axis, wherein the fibers of the second set are oriented at  $+45^\circ \pm 15^\circ$  with respect to the axis, and wherein the fibers of the third set are oriented at  $-45^\circ \pm 15^\circ$  with respect to the axis.

3. (Previously Presented) The stabilizer bar of Claim 2 wherein the arms each comprise a light-metal alloy.

4. (Previously Presented) The stabilizer bar of Claim 2 further comprising:

first and second clamps positioned at least partially around the first and second rod ends, respectively, said first and second clamps positioned to abut the first and second arms, respectively, to limit axial movement of the rod with respect to the clamps.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) ~~The stabilizer bar of Claim 5 wherein the~~ A stabilizer bar comprising:

a fiber reinforced composite rod having a tubular configuration and including a plurality of fibers embedded in a resin binder, said rod having first and second open ends;

said composite rod comprising comprises a longitudinal axis, wherein the fibers comprise first, second and third sets of fibers, wherein the fibers of the first set are oriented at  $0^\circ \pm 15^\circ$  with respect to the axis, wherein the fibers of the second set are oriented at  $+45^\circ \pm 15^\circ$  with respect to the axis, and wherein the fibers of the third set are oriented at  $-45^\circ \pm 15^\circ$  with respect to the axis.;

first and second arms, each arm comprising a respective recess, each of  
said recesses receiving one of said rod ends; and

first and second plugs positioned within the first and second rod ends  
within the first and second recesses, respectively.

9. (Previously Presented) The stabilizer bar of Claim 8 or 2 wherein the fibers of the first, second, and third sets comprise more than 50% of all of the fibers in the composite rod.

10. (Previously Presented) The stabilizer bar of Claim 8 or 2 wherein the fibers of the first, second, and third sets comprise more than 75% of all of the fibers in the composite rod.

11. (Previously Presented) The stabilizer bar of Claim 8 or 2 wherein the fibers of the first, second, and third sets comprise more than 95% of all of the fibers in the composite rod.

12. (Currently Amended) The stabilizer bar of Claim 8 5 wherein the  
composite rod comprises a longitudinal axis, wherein the fibers comprise first, second  
and third sets of fibers, wherein the fibers of the first set are oriented at  $0^\circ \pm 10^\circ$  with  
respect to the axis, wherein the fibers of the second set are oriented at  $+45^\circ \pm 10^\circ$  with  
respect to the axis, and wherein the fibers of the third set are oriented at  $-45^\circ \pm 10^\circ$  with  
respect to the axis.

13. (Currently Amended) The stabilizer bar of Claim 8 5 wherein the  
composite rod comprises a longitudinal axis, wherein the fibers comprise first, second  
and third sets of fibers, wherein the fibers of the first set are oriented at  $0^\circ \pm 5^\circ$  with  
respect to the axis, wherein the fibers of the second set are oriented at  $+45^\circ \pm 5^\circ$  with  
respect to the axis, and wherein the fibers of the third set are oriented at  $-45^\circ \pm 5^\circ$  with  
respect to the axis.

14. (Previously Amended) The stabilizer bar of Claim 2 wherein the fibers comprise carbon fibers.

15. (Previously Amended) The stabilizer bar of Claim 2 wherein the arms are each tapered from a larger cross-sectional area to a smaller cross-sectional area, said larger cross-sectional area disposed between the rod and the smaller cross-sectional area.

16. (Previously Amended) The stabilizer bar of Claim 2 wherein the rod is tubular in shape.

17. (Previously Presented) The stabilizer bar of Claim 2 wherein the fibers of the first set are oriented  $0^\circ \pm 10^\circ$  with respect to the axis, wherein the fibers of the second set are oriented at  $+45^\circ \pm 10^\circ$  with respect to the axis, and wherein the fibers of the third set are oriented at  $-45^\circ \pm 10^\circ$  with respect to the axis.

18. (Previously Presented) The stabilizer bar of Claim 2 wherein the fibers of the first set are oriented  $0^\circ \pm 5^\circ$  with respect to the axis, wherein the fibers of the second set are oriented at  $+45^\circ \pm 5^\circ$  with respect to the axis, and wherein the fibers of the third set are oriented at  $-45^\circ \pm 5^\circ$  with respect to the axis.

19-27. (Cancelled)